

MEMORANDUM

To:

Members House Judiciary Committee

From:

Wendy Block, Michigan Chamber of Commerce

Date:

May 9, 2012

Re:

Michigan Chamber Supports Creation of Business Courts (HB 5128)

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of the Michigan Chamber's support for HB 5128, legislation to create state Business Courts for the exclusive purpose of hearing commercial cases.

The concept of having particular disputes resolved in special courts is not new. Special courts exist today for unemployment, workers' compensation, tax, and domestic relation disputes, as well as for bankruptcies and other areas where complex and technical subject matter demands special expertise for dispute resolution.

Job providers often express dissatisfaction with the judicial system not only because overburdened courts take months to decide cases but also because outcomes are unpredictable. Business Courts are particularly appropriate for commercial cases because these cases frequently are very complex or draw upon a body of law developed in response to the unique nature of commercial disputes. Devoting specialized judicial resources to commercial cases will lead to more consistency in the disposition of litigated cases and increased efficiency in the use of judicial resources.

We urge your support of HB 5128. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 517/371.7678 if you have any questions.